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RECENT LITERATURE.

CLAYPOLE'S "THE LAKE AGE IN OHIO."¹—The course of the terminal moraine in Ohio is westward from the New York line to about the middle of the State, after which it swerves south and southwest so as to cross into Kentucky. "The ice," says our author, "*dammed the Ohio River above the site of Cincinnati*," forming a sheet of water which he names "Lake Ohio." As the banks of the Ohio are 400 to 500 feet high at Cincinnati, the ice must have been thicker than this. If assumed at 500 feet, the rim of the ice would be 365 feet above the level of Lake Erie. The entire south of Ohio, a large portion of West Virginia, and portions of Kentucky and Pennsylvania, including the site of Pittsburgh, must thus have been under water, forming a lake some 400 miles by 200. Professor Claypole, from the mass of the moraine, and other reasons, assigns considerable time to the life of this lake before the ice-dam gave way, at first to be repaired every winter, at last utterly.

When the glacier, in its further retreat, had crossed the watershed, the waters formed by its melting, unable to escape towards the north, formed a series of smaller lakes in what are now the valleys of rivers flowing into Lakes Erie and Ontario. As a consequence of the still farther retreat of the ice, these lakes became confluent, the water was drained away from those that lay highest, and carried off through the lowest water-gap, paving the way for the formation of Lakes Erie and Ontario, which at one stage formed a single vast sheet of water.

For some time a narrow ice-dam stretching across the St. Lawrence valley held the waters of this great lake at a level of 700 feet above the sea.

Professor Claypole traces the various steps of the ice retreat and lake formation with much care, and illustrates his argument with four maps.

W. N. L.

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¹ The Lake Age in Ohio, or Some Episodes during the Retreat of the North American Ice-sheet. By E. W. Claypole, B.A., B.S.C. Edinburgh: MacLachlan & Stewart. 1887.

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